

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 6, and 10 remain in the application with claim 1 having been amended hereby and claims 4, 7, and 11-13 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 11 and 13 under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by Cellier et al.

Claims 4, 7, and 11-13 have been canceled hereby.

In paragraph 6 of the instant official action claim 4 is rejected as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended hereby to include claim 4 in its entirety. Claim 4 has been canceled. Claims 5 and 6 depend from claim 1.

Therefore, by reason of the inclusion of the allowable subject matter of claim 4 in claim 1 it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance, as are claims 5 and 6.

The cancellation of claim 12 renders moot the rejection thereof under 35 USC 103.

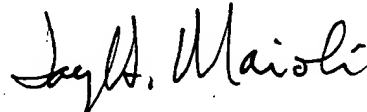
Notice is respectfully taken of the allowance of claim 10.

Therefore, by reason of the inclusion of allowable subject matter in claim 1 and the allowance of claim 10 it is respectfully that only allowable claims remain in this application.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jay H. Maioli".

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 by rewriting same to read as follows, and cancel claims 4, 7, and 11-13, without prejudice or disclaimer.

--1. (Five Times Amended) An audio data signal processing method, in which a supplied audio data signal can be in one of a compressed data state and an uncompressed data state, for performing a process for decoding the supplied audio data signal, comprising the steps of:

detecting whether zero data continues for a predetermined period of time in said supplied audio data signal;

determining, when zero data are detected to continue for said predetermined period of time, that said supplied audio data are in the compressed data state and determining, when zero data is not detected to continue for said predetermined period of time, that said supplied audio data are in the uncompressed state; and

performing a first decoding operation on said supplied audio data when said supplied audio data are determined to be in the compressed data state in said step of determining and

performing a second decoding operation when said supplied audio data are determined to be in the uncompressed data state

and said supplied data are determined to be in the uncompressed data state in said step of determining,

wherein upon detection that zero data continue for said predetermined period of time, said decoding is performed by switching said supplied audio data signed to said first decoding operation based on a sync signal of said supplied audio data signal[.], and

wherein said supplied audio data are stored for said predetermined period during which it is detected whether said zero data continue, and when it is determined that said supplied data are non-compressed audio data, the result of decoding said supplied audio data is output following the result of decoding said stored audio data.--